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**Double vs. Triple**

**Problem**

Most parents expect their kids to study hard all day, every day in college. However, a big part of the college experience is socializing. The number one person that a student has to socialize with is their roommate. This one person is the deciding factor on whether a student’s year will be challenging or fun. Are having two roommates better than having one roommate? In this paper, I will answer that question with background information. Then I will present my findings and come to a conclusion.

**Background**

Being put into a triple room is usually a last resort. Even high authorities in the universities, realize that the situation is not exemplary. Hal Haynes, Dickinson University Vice President says, “I believe anytime you get into the triple mode, you diminish the overall experience for the students and it’s not ideal”(Dickinson Press, 2011). Coming into college, never have meet your roommates, the idea of sharing a room with two other students is not what the students want. The lack of space can annoy many people and start to resent the person taking up the space.

Usually when tripling in dorms occur it is because the school has too many students. In a study done at a University it confirmed that, “overcrowding and social density have significant effects on the academic performance of the respondents”(Justice, Mwantu, 2013). Having more than one person in a dorm room is distracting and causes students academics to go down.

Just getting one roommate has its difficulties. Getting along with a stranger is difficult, so sometimes students go roommate-matching sites. The matching sites only work if the student is honest. However, sometimes students put, “misrepresentations of themselves on roommate-matching questionnaires”(Counter, 2012). When one roommate is expecting the other to be a certain way it is frustrating when they are not who they say they are. Creating more tension in a dorm room.

How is it like at Bloomsburg University between roommates? Does it matter if they are doubled or tripled?

**Method**

To answer the questions that I asked previously I interviewed two people on their experiences in their dorms. I asked certain questions, that I believed would help me understand the differences between doubles and triples. One of the interviewees was doubled and the other was tripled. They have different majors and live in different buildings. I chose two people that I thought were different form each other to get different viewpoints.

**Findings**

My interviewees were Kelsey Green and Jenna Diefenbacher. Kelsey is in the major mass communications. Jenna is the major special education and early education with a concentration in deaf education. While Jenna wanted to come here because she thought it had an education program and her mom went to college here, Kelsey decided to come here, because she got denied from her other top choices.

The first question I asked about dorm life is where they live and if they are doubled and tripled. Jenna lives in Columbia Hall and is doubled. Kelsey lives in Columbia and is tripled. The next question I asked if they want to be doubled or tripled. Jenna had a short answer of no, but Kelsey had more detail. She said, “Tripled. I get along with my roommates so it makes it fun”(Green, 2013). Her answer is surprising to me, since I assumed that most people who are tripled would prefer to be doubled.

The next thing we talked about was the advantages and disadvantages of being doubled or tripled. Jenna said of the advantages that, “you both get your own space that you can keep to yourself” and said of the disadvantages that, “you make a connection with one person instead of two”(Diefenbacher 2013). Kelsey had similar views on being tripled. Kelsey said about the advantages are, “you get to make more friends”(Green, 2013) and she doesn’t believe there are any disadvantages. Both realize that being tripled has an advantage of making one more connection, then you would if you are doubled.

(1)The next question I asked had to do with their roommates. I asked if they get along with their roommates. Both had the same answer. (2) Jenna said that she gets along “very well” and they “are like best friends”(Diefenbacher, 2013). Kelsey gets along “really well”(Green, 2013). (3) This shows me that people only care how well they get along with their roommates, not how many they are.

Lastly, I asked if they think it is easier to be with one roommate or two. Jenna said, “one, because it is less people to have and issue with”(Diefenbacher 2013). Kelsey said, “Two. It is easier to start a conversation and to talk to”(Green 2013). Both are right. If there is an issue it is easier to solve with just two opinions, instead of three. Kelsey is also right though, if you have to talk it is easier, because you don’t have to be the one talking all the time.

**Conclusion**

Based on the information I collected I realized it is not necessarily how many roommates a person has, but who their roommates are. Both of the people I interviewed said they liked their situation. I believe they like their situation, because they like their roommates. Since both get along well with their roommates, this suggests to me that at Bloomsburg University is lucky to have most roommates get along well.

**References**

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